

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 48 as follows:

1. (Amended) A stretchable composite material comprising:
- a) a first layer;
 - b) a second layer;
 - c) at least one elongated elastic member;
 - d) the elastic members located between the first and second layers and being in contact with the first and second layers;
 - e) regions of securement securing the elastic members, first and second layers; and
 - f) the stretchable composite material having a maximum elongation of at least about 85% of the elongation of the elastic member.

48. (Amended) A stretchable composite material comprising: a first layer, the first layer being a breathable material; a second layer, the second layer being a breathable material; at least two elastic members, the elastic members positioned in between the first and second layers; regions of securement securing the elastic members, the first layer and the second layer; the regions of securement further comprising attached zones; the attached zones extending traverse and across a majority of the elastic members; wherein the stretchable composite material has a maximum elongation of at least about 85% of the elongation of the elastic members.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14-18 and 48-50 stand rejected. Without conceding the validity of the rejections, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 48 to better define the invention and to facilitate prosecution. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 48 can be found, for example, in the claims as originally filed. This amendment is fully supported by the specification and does not incorporate new matter.